

JVD:#338537

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 34-37 without prejudice to their consideration in a continuing application.

Please amend claim 44 as follows.

Please add new claims 64-69 as follows.

1-43 cancelled.

44. (currently amended) A method for heat treating a spring, comprising:

providing a coil spring with a first outer diameter and a first length fabricated from a shape memory material;

providing a member defining a chamber with an inner diameter and a length, the chamber length being greater than the length of the spring and the chamber inner diameter being greater than the outer diameter of the spring;

placing the spring in the chamber;

heating the chamber and spring to more than about 400 degrees C. and less than about 600 degrees C. for a period of more than about two minutes; and

permitting the spring outer diameter to grow to the inner diameter of the chamber, and permitting the spring length to grow to the length of the chamber.

45. (original) The method of claim 44 which further comprises:

heating the chamber and spring after said permitting to more than about 900 degrees C. for a period of less than about ten seconds; and

Amendment and Response to Office Action

Serial No. 10/748,742

Attorney Docket: 7024-538

Page 4 of 17

JVD:#338537

quenching the chamber and spring in water.

46. (original) The method of claim 44 which further comprises:
removing the spring from the chamber after said permitting;
putting the spring in a fuel rich flame for more than about one second and less than about five seconds, said putting being after said removing.

47. (original) The method of claim 46 which further comprises quenching the spring in water after said putting.

48-63 cancelled

64. (New) A method for displaying haptic information, comprising:
providing a shape-memory spring, a pin positionable at a plurality of positions and having a first feature, a first member defining a hole, the pin being guided within the hole, and a second member having a second feature;
heating the spring;
urging of the pin by the heated spring in a first direction from a first position toward a second position;
sliding the first feature of the pin past the second feature of the second member during said urging;
cooling of the spring after said urging;

Amendment and Response to Office Action
Serial No. 10/748,742
Attorney Docket: 7024-538
Page 5 of 17

JVD#338537

withdrawing the pin in a second direction opposite of the first direction by said cooling; and
limiting said withdrawing by coacting of the first feature and the second feature

65. (new) The method of claim 64 wherein the pin has an end, the first member has a surface, and the end of the pin extends from the surface in at least one of the positions to provide a haptic input.

66. (new) The method of claim 64 wherein the coacting of the first feature and the second feature prevents movement of the pin in the second direction when a force is applied by a human finger to the end of the pin.

67. (new) The method of claim 64 wherein the first feature is a projection and the second feature is a groove.

68. (new) The method of claim 64 wherein said limiting is to a third position intermediate of the first position and the second position.

69. (new) The method of claim 64 wherein said coacting is physical support of the first feature by the second feature.

Amendment and Response to Office Action

Serial No. 10/748,742

Attorney Docket: 7024-538

Page 6 of 17